

Arizona Department of Water Resources



Janice K. Brewer,
Governor
Sandra A. Fabritz-Whitney,
Director

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2011

CONTACT: Michelle Moreno
(602) 771-8530
mamoreno@azwater.gov

Water Resources Development Commission Releases Final Report Pursuant to HB 2661

PHOENIX (October 6, 2011) – The Water Resources Development Commission (WRDC) has released its report on the future availability of water supplies for the State of Arizona. The WRDC completed the legislated task of analyzing Arizona's water needs for the next 100 years. Additionally, the WRDC has made progress in evaluating the issues associated with meeting those needs. Chair for the Commission, Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Director Sandra Fabritz-Whitney stated that "This effort has provided ADWR with a valuable opportunity to compile in one place the data necessary for more comprehensive statewide water resource planning. This effort also confirms that Arizona faces water sustainability challenges in the future, but as we have done over the last 100 years, Arizonans have come together and again demonstrated their long-standing commitment to planning for and securing that future for the citizens of this state."

The report is available at: http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/WaterManagement/WRDC_HB2661/Meetings_Schedule.htm

Moving forward, Arizona must develop a broad portfolio of solutions to meet the numerous water supply challenges that are inherent in this diverse state. The WRDC recommends that it be given until the sunset date of September 30, 2012, to continue the development, evaluation and prioritization of potential solutions or legislative proposals. The final report will serve as a foundation for future water management planning.

In 2010, the Arizona State Legislature passed House Bill 2661, which established the WRDC. The WRDC was given the task of assessing Arizona's demand for water and the supplies available to meet those demands for the next 25, 50, and 100 years. "The Legislature recognizes the connection between secure water supplies and a robust economy; we want to be sure to support that link", said House Speaker Andy Tobin, who sponsored the bill. The WRDC consists of 17 commission members representing various Arizona industries and water users and nine ex officio members representing state and federal agencies and the Governor's office. ADWR staff provided technical and administrative support to the WRDC.

Arizona has long been a leader in water management planning. The formation and work of the WRDC continues that leadership through the development of strategies, programs and infrastructure planning to ensure that the state will have sufficient water supplies available to meet the needs of future generations.

###